bat Aircraft are detrimental to the development of scientific research in our country and th-e Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bangalore; and

(b) what is Government's assessment re. garding reliability of US, in the context of its attitude in supplying, enriched uranium for Tarapur Atomic Power Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(fo) In the light of the Indo-US Memorandum of Understanding and assessment of all factors connected with export control administration by the Govt, of USA, there is reasonable confidence in the reliability of the USA in the concerned areas of high technology.

Applications for telephone connections in Cuttack District

2270. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of appli cations received for new telephone con nections in the Cuttack District of Orissa, during the last two years and the number of those which have been given connec tions; and

(fo) by when all the applicants are likely to be given telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV); (a) During the two years ending 31-10-86, 2029 applications for new telephone connections were received in Cuttack District of Orissa and during this period 903 connections were given.

(b) All the applicants on waiting list a_s on 31-10-86 are likely to be given tele phone connections within the next three years.

Opening of Post Offices, Telegraph Officesand Telephone Exchanges in Cuttack Dis-trict

2271. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY; Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what is the target for opening new post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges in the Cuttack District of Orissa during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and the number of those which have already been opened upto 31st October, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): *Post offices*—On account ofthe continuing ban on creation of posts, no programme of opening of new post offices has been implemented during 1985-86 or, so far, during 1986-87 in Orissa Circle or in other Postal Circles. • As on 31-10-1986, 7535 post offices were functioning in Orissa Circle put of which 6989 weie in rural areas and 546 in urban areas. - *Telegraph Offices and Telephone Exchange*—During 1985-86 10 telegraph offices and 6 telephone exchanges were opened in Orissa a Circ'e. The target for 1986-87 for telegraph offices is 10 and that for telephone exchanges is 3. Upto 31-10-86, 3 telegraph offices were opened.

2772. *[Transferred to the* 5th *December,* 1986].

Standing Committee of Voluntary Organisations for pensioners

2273. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gov ernment have appointed a Standing Com mittee of Voluntary Organisations of pen sioners (SCOVA) to advise th© Ministry of Pensions on various problems relat ing to pensioners and fami'y pensioners in the country;

(b) if so, what are the names of mem bers of the said committee indicating its terms of reference and what are the tenures and privileges of the mem bers and the organisations they repre sent; and .....

(c) what are the criteria, eligibility and qualifications fixed by the Ministry tor selection of members to Standing Committee of Voluntary Organisations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI); (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

CONSTITUTION

A Standing Committee of Voluntary Agencies for the Department of Pension and Pensioner's welfare was constituted on July 31, 1986 with a view to promoting the following objectives:

(i) To provide a feedback on programme implementation of the Department,

(ii) To discuss and critically examine new policy initiatives, and

(iii) To mobilise voluntary effort to supplement the Government action.

COMPOSITION

2. Th© eottgosition of the Committee is as under;

1. Dr. Bool Chand, President, Bha rat Pensioners' Samaj, New Delhi.

2. Shri Ripudaman Singh, Senior Vice President, Bharat Pensioners' Samaj, New Dehli.

3. Shri S. S. Ramachandran, Secretary General, All India Central Council of Pensioners' Associations, New Del

Shri B. S. Vaze, General Secretary, All India P&T and Other Central Government Pensioners' Association (Main Centre), Pune.

5. Shri M. S- Hinge, General Secretary, All India Retired Railwaymen's Federation, Bhusaval.

6. Brig. Ram Singh (Retd.) President, Indian Ex-Services League, New Delhi.

1589 RS—5

Col. B. S. Panwar (Retd.) Senior Vice President, Indian Ex-Services League, New Delhi.

7. Maj. Gen. Budh Singh (Retd.) President Haryana Ex-Services League, Rohtak, Haryana.

9. Air Comdre. M. S. Dandekar (Retd.) President, Maharashtra State Ex-Services League, Bombay.

10. Brig- P. K. Nandagopal (Retd), President, Tamil Nadu *State* Ex-Services League, Vellore, Tamil Nadu.

11. Brig. B. N. Upadhyay (Retd.), President, Bihar State Ex-Services League, Patna.

The members of the Committee have been selected from the well-known and active organisations of the pensioners representing various interests like Railway pensioners, Ex-Servicemen, etc.

TENURE OF MEMBERS

3. The term of office of the members will be for a period of one year.

OTHER MATTERS

4. The members are entitled to travell ing allowance and daily allowance for attending the meetings of the Committee in accoradnce with the provisions of SR 190 and orders of the Government of India as issued from time to time.

Construction of (roof over railway platforms at Ordnance Vehicle Factory, Jabalpur

2274. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the. PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that construction of roof to cover certain existing railway platforms at Ordnance Vehicle Factory at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh is behind schedule;

(b) what is the date of commencement of construction and the expected date of completion thereof, as according to the contract agreement of 1983-84;

(c) what are the reasons for slow progress: and